

JUVENILE DETENTION SURVEY

Explanation of Results

The following pages contain the Juvenile Detention Survey for the First Quarter of 1999. Page 1 contains totals for major categories such as Highest One-Day Population, Average Daily Population (ADP), and gender. Page 2 contains information about a wide range of juvenile detention facility issues including the age range of detained minors, the minors' mental health needs, and average length of stay. As data reporting periods accumulate, we will add trend data to allow us to track important juvenile detention facility indicators.

Please keep the following in mind when reviewing this information:

- For Capacity, Crowding (highest one-day population-the count of minors in detention on the day of each county's highest population) and ADP (the average daily detention population for the reporting period), we have complete data from all jurisdictions in the state that operate juvenile detention facilities.
- Each jurisdiction provides us with the average population, computed across all the days in the month, for the three months in the quarter. The weighted average across the three months is then computed for each jurisdiction (with the monthly averages weighted by the number of days in the month). The jurisdictions ADPs are then summed to produce the state's total ADP.
- For some variables, we do not always receive data from all jurisdictions. For example, some jurisdictions might report that they do not know the number of detainees who are illegal/criminal aliens. When this happens, we compute the percentage of the ADP housed in the jurisdictions that did supply us with data. Then we project what the illegal/criminal alien total probably would have been had we obtained data from all respondents. Based upon our experience, we expect that for any survey variable, the percentage of the ADP represented in the responding jurisdictions will be a minimum of 80% (in other words all projections will be based upon a substantial sample). For this First Quarter of 1999, the ADP represented in the responding jurisdictions is never lower than 87%.
- Felony/misdemeanor, and gender counts, and age-range breakdowns are based upon a one-day snapshot (the day being the 15th of the final month of the quarter). These values are used to estimate the percentage of the population in each felony/misdemeanor, gender, and age-category. The percentages are then applied to the Total ADP to project the expected ADP in each of the felony/misdemeanor, gender, and age-range categories.

Instructions for interpreting the Survey Report

Page 1 is designed to present the Juvenile Detention Results for the major reporting categories.

- **Capacity:** this category presents the Board Rated Capacity in terms of the number of beds in juvenile halls and camps/ranches that meet the Board of Corrections (BOC) Standards.
- **Highest One-Day:** each jurisdiction reports for each month in the quarter, the juvenile hall and camp/ranch populations that, together, constituted the highest one-day count of the month. The importance of this number is that it is a true indicator of the need for juvenile detention housing (the traditional indicator, ADP, is a better number for reliable tracking trends, but underestimates the demand for beds during times of peak population).
- **Other:** this category refers to the sum of all juveniles who are: 1) on home supervision with or without electronic monitoring, 2) in alternative confinement programs, or 3) are housed in other jurisdictions due to lack of space.

Page 2 is designed to present all the remaining Juvenile Detention Results not already listed.

- **One-Day Snapshot:** the percentages in this section are percentages of the total ADP for Juvenile Halls, Camps/Ranches, and Other Juveniles in the System.
- **Average number of days that one or more facilities in a county exceeded the Board Rated Capacity:** this value is the result of taking all the county "number of days of crowding" and averaging the figures submitted by all the jurisdictions. If a jurisdiction had no crowding days, that jurisdiction was not included in the computation. In other words, the value presented indicates the typical number of crowding days per month experienced by jurisdictions that have had one or more days of crowding in the First Quarter of 1999.
- **Average Length of Stay:** these numbers are averages for all juveniles in each category: 1) "Juvenile Hall (all releases)" is computed by first taking the mean length of stay for all juveniles released from juvenile halls in a jurisdiction. Next, all the jurisdictions' means are averaged to produce a statewide figure; 2) "Juvenile Hall to Camps/Ranches" is computed in the same fashion, but includes only those juveniles released from juvenile hall and placed in a camp or ranch; 3) "Juvenile Hall to other out-of-home placements" presents the average length of stay for that subset of juveniles.

Page 3 is designed to present all the remaining Juvenile Detention Results not already listed.

- **County-specific counts.** This page identifies the ADP for each county and the percent that county contributes to the total state juvenile detention population.